

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 AF-06 ARA-06 NEA-10 /100 W

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R 110344Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5808

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY AJAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 522

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, PT, PO, ID

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE TIMOR - CALL ON UN SECURITY COUNCIL

PRESIDENCY BY INDONESIA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE SANI

REF: CANBERRA 0958 (NOTAL)

1. AMB SANI OF INDONESIA CALLED AT HIS REQUEST ON UN SECURITY COUNCIL (UNSC) PRESIDENCY FEBRUARY 10 TO ASK IF PRESIDENCY HAD ANY TIMETABLE REGARDING FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF QUESTION OF TIMOR. SANI, WHO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM JAKARTA, SAID HE WAS EXPECTED BACK IN JAKARTA BY FEBRUARY 22 FOR LAW OF THE SEA (LOS) CONSULTATIONS. HE WOULD NOT WANT TO BE OUT OF NEW YORK IF THE UNSC WOULD BE DISCUSSING TIMOR.

2. AMB BENNETT, ACTING AS UNSC PRESIDENT, REPLIED THAT PRESIDENCY HAD RECEIVED NO REQUEST TO RECONVENE UNSC ON TIMOR. THERE HAD BEEN, HOWEVER, NUMBER OF COMMUNICATIONS ADDRESSED
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TO UNSC PRESIDENT ABOUT TIMOR. THESE HAD BEEN CIRCULATED

BY PRESIDENT TO UNSC MEMBERS. RECENTLY, FOR INSTANCE, THERE WAS CABLE FROM FRETILIN (SEPTTEL) STRESSING DESIRE OF FRETILIN LEADERS TO MEET UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WINSPEARE IN EAST TIMOR, AND ASKING UN TO ARRANGE TRANSPORT FOR WINSPEARE TO ANY ONE OF FOUR AIRSTRIPS WHERE AIRCRAFT COULD LAND (SAME, SUAI, VIQUEQUE, AND CON).

3. SANI SAID HE WAS AWARE OF THIS CABLE. IN THAT CONNECTION, INDONESIA'S EMBASSY IN CANBERRA HAD TRIED TO DELIVER MESSAGE FROM PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF EAST TIMOR TO WINSPEARE STATING THAT THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WOULD WELCOME WINSPEARE AT ANY OF THE SAME AIRSTRIPS. SANI THEN EMPHASIZED THAT PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT FORCES HAD BEEN MOVING DELIBERATELY SLOWLY IN EAST TIMOR AGAINST FRETILIN FORCES IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE LOSS OF LIFE ON BOTH SIDES. SINCE WINSPEARE HAD DEPARTED AUSTRALIA FOR GENEVA, INDONESIA NOW DIRECTING PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT'S MESSAGE TO WINSPEARE IN GENEVA. WHEN DELIVERED TO WINSPEARE, SANI WOULD REQUEST ITS CIRCULATION TO UNSC MEMBERS.

4. SANI CONTINUED THAT INDONESIA SYMPATHIZED WITH WINSPEARE'S DESIRE TO VISIT BOTH SIDES IN EAST TIMOR. HOWEVER, DUE TO THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF DELIBERATELY SLOW MILITARY MOVEMENT IT HAD BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO GUARANTEE THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE'S SAFETY IN SOME PARTS OF THE ISLAND. ADDITIONALLY, HAD, FOR INSTANCE, WINSPEARE'S AIRCRAFT BEEN SHOT AT OVER EAST TIMOR, THE FRETILIN PREDICTABLY WOULD HAVE BLAMED PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT FORCES. NEITHER DID SANI CONSIDER TRAVEL VIA PORTUGUESE WARSHIP PRACTICAL.

5. SANI NOTED THAT WINSPEARE WAS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO GENEVA TO PREPARE A REPORT ON HIS MISSION FOLLOWING HIS CURRENT VISIT TO LISBON, SANI WOULD HOPE TO CALL ON HIM IN GENEVA WHILE EN ROUTE BACK TO JAKARTA FOR THE LOS CONSULTATIONS. SANI UNDERSTOOD THAT WINSPEARE MIGHT NOT BRING HIS REPORT PERSONALLY TO NEW YORK.

6. COMMENT: WHILE ANY UNSC MEMBER COULD REQUEST UNSC
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CONSIDERATION AT ANY TIME OF TIMOR, FURTHER UNSC DEBATE SEEMS MORE PROBABLE AFTER WINSPEARE HAS SUBMITTED REPORT TO UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM. ALLOWING TIME FOR WINSPEARE TO PREPARE REPORT AND FOR TRANSLATION AND CIRCULATION OF REPORT BY SECRETARIAT, THIS DEBATE COULD BE IN SEVERAL WEEKS OR POSSIBLY SOMEWHAT LESS.
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